

LATIN NOTES

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DO PUPILS LIKE LATIN? SOME ANSWERS FROM PUPILS IN AN EASTERN HIGH SCHOOL*

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: The following announcement was read to the pupils with no previous discussion:

One sometimes sees in the papers or magazines a statement that all boys and girls hate Latin and only take it when they are compelled to do so. This is, of course, not true. Because your high school is prominent and stands for scholarly work of a high type, statements from pupils as to their feeling about Latin will be worth collecting. Please answer on the paper passed to you the question: "Do you like Latin?" Do not hesitate to say "No" if this expresses your feeling. It will not affect your mark in any way.

The teacher who forwarded the answers to the Bureau prefaced her letter with these words:

"There was *no* selection made in my classes. Every pupil wrote a paper and I sent them *all* to you. There was no dictation as to what to write and as you can see, no names were signed to the papers. It was positively a free expression on the part of each of the pupils."

It will be seen, therefore, that no attempt was made to influence the pupils to say "yes." The answers are published primarily to show that not all pupils "hate" Latin, and secondarily as a looking glass in which Latinists may perhaps see themselves. Have some of their methods failed to yield desirable results, and have others yielded rich returns?

From Pupils in the Fourth Year

I really like Latin, altho even during my freshman year Dad kept telling me not to take it. (It is not compulsory, you see.) I was determined to keep on and so this is as it stands today. During my three years and the beginning of my fourth, Latin has helped me immensely to understand my English grammatical construction and also my Spanish. As a whole Latin is intensely interesting for in Caesar I learned the types and manner of the warfare of the Romans as they themselves saw it; then in Cicero I pondered and questioned many of his points on philosophy and oratory, and these orations set me thinking constantly. Now, in Vergil, mythology, a constant source of study, I find most entrancing—so much so that I do not even end where the lessons end but keep right on going.

I did not like Latin in my second and third years, but I did like it in my first year. I seem to like Virgil. I did not like the

*Copied without change.

second and third years because I don't like wars and that is what it was based on. I am interested in studying Virgil very much because it is not based on wars. I thought at first that I would not like Virgil but I thought wrong.

I have always liked Latin, more or less. Sometimes it was dry and difficult to be interested in. This is especially true of Cicero. I disliked practically all of that except the Archias oration. Virgil is much more interesting in every way. The story is better and the scansion of the Latin lines is fun. Latin seems to come naturally to me because it has never bothered me as it has some of my friends. I think it is probably the hardest language to understand. I am taking Spanish, also, which isn't half as hard. Perhaps this is because we hold conversations in Spanish about things in everyday life. I have often wished that we might do this in Latin also.

I like to study Latin because it seems very interesting to me, and I like to study out the translation of it because when I get it I am happy. I like Latin the best of my subjects. I get pretty good marks in it and that's part of the reason, but also it just seems so different from any other subject that I like to study it and study it thoroughly. Of course, there are times when I positively hate Latin and that's when I can't get a good translation, but on the whole I like it very much. I don't have to take Latin if I don't want to, but I really want to, therefore I'm taking it.

It is rather difficult for one to say wholeheartedly "I like Latin." There are days when everything seems to be wrong and then one will say, "I hate English, Latin, and everything about school." Of course, he or she does not really mean this statement, but it is said to give vent to all the unrest in their hearts.

This is my case: On the whole I enjoy Latin, but there are days when I could joyfully throw aside books and go off to some corner and rest. This does not seem to be so with Virgil but it did happen many a time with Cicero. To me it was just a book with very many difficult forms. All that I connect with Cicero is passive or active periphrastic, future more or less vivid, and the statement by Cicero, "How long, Catiline, do you intend to abuse our patience?" I can honestly say I didn't like Cicero. With Virgil it is a different question. I am very much absorbed in it and thoroughly enjoy doing my Latin homework. The story is interesting and very adventurous. I feel that I am being very truthful when I say that I like Latin.

Yes, I like Virgil. I am very glad that I have the advantage of writing on a topic that I would sincerely like to discuss. For the first three years I dreaded Latin so much that I could hardly bear the mere mention of it. At the end of my third year my brothers asked me a common enough question, "Are you taking Virgil?" Literally speaking, I could have shot him. With as

much emphasis as possible I told him "No" and a lot more. In return he called me a coward and words of similar meaning. During the summer I thought over it and—well, here I am taking Virgil. I love it and I actually like to study it. Virgil is much more simple, maybe, but there is something about it that makes me like it. The other day I came upon a girl who, like me, wanted to drop Latin. Well, she did. Honestly, I felt sorry for her. I wish I knew why I hated it other years and like it this year. It's funny but it's true. I have only to thank my brothers.

Yes! The most brilliant minds in the whole world have written their works in Latin. Latin is a language which will never die as long as the world studies literature. I think that reading the classics in Latin gives one a fuller idea of the beauty and rhythm of the most popular works in the world.

Yes. Why? Because it has helped me to increase my English vocabulary. It has also helped me to learn how to concentrate.

Yes. The study of Latin helps one to learn the English vocabulary thoroughly because most English words are derived from Latin. When one is learning the constructions of Latin, he is also reviewing most of the English constructions.

I have not an extreme liking for Latin, but I like it more than I hate it. For it helps me considerably in English, and, during the reading of Dr. Faustus, I was able to understand most of the Latin in it. Also it helps me understand difficult words by deriving them from Latin words.

Yes. It is interesting to learn of the Latin race through the study of Latin. It is a great aid in my vocabulary and knowledge of English.

Yes, I do like Latin. It has some very good poems, orations, and fables. It also tells of Roman customs and how the Romans lived; and what gods they worshipped, and what their sacrifices to these gods were.

I like Latin quite well but I believe I would like it much better if I had studied more during the first two years. I didn't study the vocabulary as much as I should have and that makes it rather hard. But I think Latin helps in English with the meaning of the words.

I think it depends a good deal upon the teacher you have. If she takes each lesson and explains what it is about and relates it to some other incidents which are of today, it makes it very interesting. This year we are writing stories of different events and illustrating them. Latin is very educational because last year in Cicero it brought out the fact that books were of all time and would be read any place and by both child and adult. This year in Vergil we learn a great deal about the gods and their customs. Yes, I like Latin if it is taught with the idea of getting the story and not just translating.

I did not like Latin when I first started it in my first year at High School. The second year seemed to make me hate it more. When I finished my third year I did not know whether or not to take it up in the fourth year. I decided to, and now I find, in this year, that Latin is one of my favorite subjects. I like to scan and read it better than to do something else. The reason I can account for the change is that the book I am now reading is very interesting and seems simple to me. I am glad I took it up this last year for it showed me that Latin is one subject I like.

Yes, I do like Latin. The reason I like it this year is because I seem to be better able to grasp it. My second and third year I did not like because I did not understand it and I guess this point makes matters quite different, whether you understand it or not. My first and fourth year I find the most interesting of the four years. I do not know whether it is because of the teachers

or because of my ability to learn, but whatever it is I find it quite all right. I also thank myself sometimes for taking it because it helps me get the meaning of English words and it saves me the bother of looking them up. I am planning to become a nurse and I suppose it will be a great help to me.

Yes, I like Latin very much for the simple reason that I was always interested in it. It certainly was not necessary for me to take Latin and especially to carry it for four years, but I always liked it and shall continue to do so. When I entered High School I had no definite plans for the future, but during the end of my junior year I decided to take up nursing and I don't believe there is any better subject to take up than that of Latin because it will help me during my course, and also Latin does a person a world of good if he plugs at it until he has succeeded. For I know that when I come home from school, I always try to complete my Virgil first before I start any other subject. I know Latin is going to help me a great deal in the future.

Yes, I like Latin. If I didn't like it I most certainly would not be taking my fourth year of it. I don't feel that I have to take it but I do feel that it will help me when I graduate in the profession I intend to take up. The main reason why I've liked Latin, from my freshman year on, is because I've always had a lot of fun in putting it together. It's been great fun to puzzle over it a bit. I think that it is tremendously interesting, too, for I've gained many new ideas from it.

Yes, I do like Latin a great deal because it is interesting and like a great puzzle. I am always anxious to know what is further on in the book and this keeps up my interest. I am not compelled to take Latin but it was pleasing to me in my freshman and sophomore years so I decided to learn more of it and to ponder over the great puzzle longer.

From Vergil, as well as other forms of Latin, we learn about the customs of the ancient Romans and their tribute to civilization and mankind. Our minds become broadened and our vocabulary is increased.

I do like Latin. I'm glad that I have taken it for it has given me a foundation for English grammar which other girls who did not take Latin are lacking. Also when reading one comes across Latin expressions and to know Latin helps one understand the thought that the author wishes to convey to the reader. As I am thinking of going into training for a nurse, Latin will be helpful there. Also we learn about Caesar, Cicero, Virgil and their associates and their works. In reading Virgil we learn to like poetry better and to understand scanning.

I like Latin because I think it is very beautiful. Many people say it is a dead language. I cannot understand this because I think it is more alive than most languages. Many languages fall short of what is expected of them, but Latin to my thinking does not, in fact it assumes a higher degree of interest than any other. Things, beautiful or otherwise, are sometimes not well expressed because of the shortcomings of the language, but thoughts expressed in Latin words are beautiful and at most times more expressive than the thought itself.

I do not think that I shall regret taking up the study of Latin. I like Latin not only because of its translation but also because of its stories concerning the wars and its tales of the nymphs. There are times when I get discouraged when I do my Latin because I cannot get the sentence translated well, but I do the best I can with the sentence and ask my Latin teacher to help me which she does willingly. No one has to take Latin. It is up to the person to take her choice of the languages.

Latin is a language from which many other languages have been derived. It helps one in increasing or developing his English. You read in Vergil, Cicero, and others the happenings of old times, and it is interesting.

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Yes, I like Latin. It seems to me that, although I am by no means a good student, the language holds boundless opportunities. The very first year (the most uninteresting) was captivating because of the words one studied—the root-study and derivation especially. Then Caesar comes along. If all students could visualize what they are reading, I do believe they would enjoy the work more. Cicero is right good for a number of reasons and when we forget about the actual translation, it's easy to feel as though we were reading something—say from a newspaper. Vergil's Aeneid is the most beautiful classic to me. I revel in the old temples, the very names of the gods, and the ancient world. When I see the sea, who comes to my head but Neptune; the thunderclouds, Jupiter; and I think that every single day we see the references to these immortals, in books—everywhere.

Yes, I like Latin a great deal. I think it is a very interesting subject, especially Vergil, for the story is more interesting. You are able to connect many myths with the story. I think everyone enjoys reading myths, and then also learns some curious things about earlier times. I do not think that it is a hard subject as some of my friends consider it. Some think because you are not able to speak it that it is not interesting.

I find Latin a very interesting study. I decided to take it, because it would be helpful in my proposed career. I find it quite hard, but when I have completed my daily assignments, I feel that I have accomplished one more step to something which is worthy. Latin helps me a great deal in my English. I did not choose this subject because I was compelled to do so. I selected it rather because I knew it would be a profitable study and I indeed have found it such.

I like Latin and enjoy reading it because it enables me to turn back the years and see the Romans and the things they saw and the way they felt about life. From my study of Latin I obtained the idea that everywhere in all ages the people wondered and questioned and sought the better things of life just as we are now doing. While reading novels and histories I have found many Latin words and I would have lost the entire meanings which the authors were trying to bring forth without my knowledge of Latin. I think the Latin language is beautiful and I have learnt how beautiful and expressive the English language is when trying to find words which are vivid enough to express the thoughts of the Latin writers. While studying biology I found that many names of diseases and muscles and bones were Latin words and by knowing what they meant the scientific words meant much more to me.

I can honestly say that I like Latin. During my first and second years of High School, I could not have said this. But through much outside reading about the Roman customs, people, and divinities, and the study of Cicero's Orations and Virgil's Aeneid, I have truly come to like it. I have learned that the people who lived so many hundred of years ago were very much like ourselves, and that their interests were very much like our interests, which surprised me considerably. I am interested to learn how many of the words we use in our everyday conversation are derived from Latin words. Since I have been studying the Aeneid, I have come to understand many of the references to Roman gods and goddesses in things I read and have read which before I was not able to understand. It is not a compulsory subject, but I chose it because it will be beneficial to me in my intended profession.

Latin appeals to me because it helps me in my English work and it is interesting.

I do like Latin because it is interesting, beneficial, and broadening. It also aids one in the study of English.

I like Latin but I don't intend to pursue it in college. I don't study very much but I can do it when I try to. It requires a great deal of thinking. I don't mind studying it for four years but I would never make it my life's work.

The reason I like Latin is because it aids me in many ways, especially in my English class. It helps in my diction, spelling, also in the studying of English and Greek plays, and time-old literature.

I like Latin. This is probably due to the fact that I received a good foundation in Latin when I was a freshman. This foundation has enabled me to master the subject without any great difficulty. I also enjoy the stories which we have read in Latin.

No. As I am interested in the sciences, Latin does not appeal to me.

Yes, I do like Latin. The majority of English words are taken from the Latin language. It is very interesting to know how people lived in Roman times and in Greek times. In Caesar, we read about his wars in Gaul and were able to compare them with the wars of modern times. In Cicero, we learned about plots and conspiracies which are very common in this age. Without the knowledge of Latin, we could not possibly trace the development of mankind in his customs.

I like the study of the Latin language for two main reasons: One is that it broadens any vocabulary and the other is that it gives me ideas of what happened years ago in Europe.

Yes, I like Latin because it has given me a wider and more practical knowledge. It also is a good foundation for my English vocabulary.

I like Latin because it helps me a great deal in English.

I like Latin because it helps me form my English vocabulary and gives me knowledge of the people, laws, natures, and customs of the Roman period.

Yes, and no. The adventures of Caesar, the doings of Cicero, and the poems of Virgil are, to my opinion, the greatest of all works. Yes, I like them tremendously and wish I could read them the way I would like to. Now for the second part of my answer. The rules and grammar, the tenses of verbs and the declensions of nouns and adjectives, gerunds, gerundives, vocabularies, and all that goes with it, are to me disagreeable. Yes, I like Latin, but not all the various sidelines and rules relative to Latin.

I am taking Latin for 4 years, and I certainly enjoy taking it. My reasons are very obvious, I presume. Latin is a foundation for all other languages as most all of us know by experience. Since I am taking so many other languages, I have taken Latin for four years as a foundation.

From Pupils in the Third Year

Even though I do not get good marks in Latin, I like it because I think it helps to improve our English vocabulary, for many English words are derived from Latin. I like Latin translation but I do not like Latin grammar.

There are some parts of Latin that I like and others that I dislike. I like translation quite well, but I do not see the sense in struggling over it when one can just as well go to the library and read it in English. Also, when I think of it, I see no sense in studying it as one would Spanish or French, because after all it's a dead language and what use can it be after one leaves school?

I dislike Latin immensely. It is dull even if it does help you in other languages. It seems quite unnecessary. My teachers in Latin have been excellent, but I just can't learn anything. It has taken me two years to pass first year Latin. The Latin language is a waste of time. I find the translation quite insipid. Who cares what the Argonauts did?

I like Latin because it enables me to understand English words similar to Latin that come into practical use. It is also very interesting and pleases me very much. I can spend more time on it also.

Yes, I like Latin because I am still studying it after many failures to master it. I find it is comparatively simple in its similarity to English, and a correct recitation brings much satisfaction.

I do not like Latin because I cannot devote as much time to it as is required to make it enjoyable.

Yes and yes and no and no. The reason "yes" is only when a lesson is easy to get. The reason for "no" is because I can't get the lesson, or rather because I have not got what I should have previously. No one has anything against the language—it is the lack of knowing how to do it well. If there was anything against a language, English would have it.

Yes, I do like Latin very much because I do study it, and once learned it is always learned, and can always be applied. For this reason a language takes less time for homework.

I don't like it and I don't hate it. I take it because it gives the jist of other languages and because it is required for college.

Yes, I think Latin is interesting at times but there are many times when it is discouraging. It makes you intelligent, for most of the English language is made from Latin.

I find Latin very interesting, and I also find that I will have use for it in my future life.

Yes, I do like Latin, that is, at times. Some days it comes very easily to me, that is, the translation, and yet at other times I don't like it because I find the translation difficult. But I study it with the feeling that it is doing me good. I will probably know Latin some day and probably be able to use it later in life.

Although I am afraid I am a very poor Latin student, I like Latin very much. I think it is far more interesting than French because we are reading stories while we do our Latin. But in French you will not find so many interesting stories.

I am sorry to say that I hate Latin. There are many reasons for this but the most prominent is the fact that in order to get a good mark one must study at least two hours daily. This, as you may see, is a great drudgery for any boy.

I simply love Latin and am studying it not because I'm compelled to but because it's so interesting. I love especially to translate but the grammar work is also very pleasing to me.

I like Latin very much but I don't know why. I especially like the reading in Latin.

When I started the study of Latin I disliked it immensely, but as I went farther I liked it more. It would be untrue to say that it is my favorite study because it is not. Altho I find it very hard, I also find it rather interesting.

I love Latin. Why? Because in my freshman year I hated it, and had to take it over because I flunked and was taught in my sophomore year to study. This year it comes easy and I like it immensely.

Yes, I like Latin because I want to be a doctor.

Yes, I enjoy Latin, as it isn't very hard for me. One gets satisfaction making translation come out right, in good English. However, I don't see what help it would be in some professions. The only reason I can see for having it is for the English grammar we receive from it.

I like Latin because it seems to have a rule for every grammatical point and it is not like French, which has a rule with about twenty exceptions. I usually study my Latin as a puzzle and I think it's fun not to have the words in order.

Yes, I do like Latin. I like it because it makes one understand the English language better. It is also quite interesting to translate the different stories, and to discover the English words derived from the Latin language.

I do like Latin. It not only gives us a new vocabulary and words of a different language, but it also gives us a very good historical background. It gives us the actions and the very words of people who lived hundreds of years ago. It opens up to our view the world of long ago—I find this rather enchanting.

I certainly do enjoy my Latin though it is rather hard for me. I find that by studying hard I usually find the right translation.

Yes, I do like Latin very much because I find it interesting and helpful in many ways. By studying Latin, I think a person learns something about history, too. Often, too, we find Latin words in our own language which helps us to know how to spell them and to know their meaning.

I like Latin well enough—though I am by no means in love with it. While at times it is interesting, the majority of the time it is dull and rather hard.

Although I have studied subjects which I thought more interesting than Latin, I think that it is interesting in its way. The translation of Latin is like a puzzle. One has to take words from all parts of the Latin sentence to make a good English sentence. I am a lover of puzzles and therefore Latin appeals to me as a most interesting subject.

No I don't like Latin. One reason is because it is very difficult and requires a great deal of study, and then it is not a language common to any country and it is not used in conversation. If one is taking up a profession it is all right but for an ordinary person it is not used much in their life.

My answer is going to be neutral. I don't like Latin because it is complicated—that is, the cases, conjugations, and the numerous forms. When I find that I can translate Latin easily I begin to get interested, but as soon as it proves difficult this sudden interest wavers. I do like Latin because it will be useful to me later in life. In college it will be of use and in conversation and traveling when certain things are transcribed in Latin. I think I'll like Latin the most when I am finished with books, i.e., school books, and I have learned what the things are that need be learned. Then I will appreciate the fact that I have learned Latin.

I like Latin because it is an interesting subject. Of course, it is very difficult to translate Latin but when it is done we often have a very interesting story or poem. Though it is not used in everyday language as a modern language is, we often find Latin phrases in newspaper editorials, magazines, and such. It is nice to be able to translate it and to know that we know as much as the next one.

Yes, I like Latin. I think it is very interesting and helps me to understand English better as many of our words are derived

from Latin. Although Latin is a socalled "dead" language there are many classics written in Latin which are very cultural.

I think Latin is a very interesting language and I like it more than any language I am taking at present. Although I find Latin rather difficult at times and particularly this year, I still like it because it is written in an interesting as well as historical manner.

Yes, I do enjoy and like Latin, although when I started school it was merely because the classical course required it. I like it because it reminds me of a puzzle, in which one must set all the pieces together, and too I enjoy solving things which at first seem above my head.

Yes, I like Latin. However, my reasons for liking it are not definite. I probably have never taken it seriously enough, because it always seems to me like a puzzle. You take the words and find out what case or tense, etc., they are in and then fit them all together and find you have a sentence. While I am not an honor pupil, Latin always seems rather easy.

I do enjoy Latin very much and think it is well worth the study. Latin is the basis of most Romance languages, and therefore I think it is worth while to gain such a foundation for other more modern languages. In some cases, it is an aid in English. Most of all it is a fascination to learn how the people of the ancient world conversed, and if the subject is hard for us, it will serve to show the difficulties a foreigner has in learning English.

I cannot really say yes or no to the question, but as Latin has always been my most difficult subject, I suppose it is no. However, at times when I understand my lesson thoroughly, I like this subject quite well.

I have studied three different languages and I still can say that Latin is my favorite subject. I like it because there are so many ways of expressing things, and when you have once learned the construction you feel that you have accomplished something. It is rather difficult, but to a person who likes to puzzle things out it is the most beneficial type of a puzzle. So many technical terms are expressed in Latin that it seems almost absolutely necessary that some knowledge of the language be known.

I do not like Latin because even when I know the meanings of the words, the cases and reasons, it always seems that I cannot put the Cicero together so it will make good sense, no matter how hard I try. Also, Cicero, when it is translated into English, does not interest me enough so that I can get the meaning of it all.

Yes, I like Latin better than all the rest of my subjects. I like it because I think it is very interesting. And it gives us a good idea of the ways of the old Romans in which I am very interested.

I do like and enjoy Latin. I shall study it during my four high school years and hope to continue it in college. I like Latin because I think it helps one to develop a cultural and classical background. Although I find it difficult, I also find it interesting and I hope to master it some day.

I like Latin for a few reasons. Cicero, which I am now taking, is very interesting and keeps you sometimes in suspense. The translation of Latin is on the whole quite simple if you go about it in the right way. Of course, there is always hard translation but then it is fun to see how nearly right you can translate it, and then compare it with the teacher's. There is only one part of Latin that I don't like so much and that is declension, conjugations, and synopsis.

I like Latin very much. In fact, much better than any other of my subjects. I find it more interesting than French (which I dislike intensely) and with a great deal more sense to it. It comes naturally easy to me, and I look forward to my Cicero class or homework with much more enthusiasm than to any of the others.

No, I don't like Latin for I find it very difficult and to me it doesn't seem to be a language which you may be able to carry on a conversation in. I have heard many arguments in favor of Latin but I took it because it was required in the college course.

No, most emphatically no. If there is any subject I dislike it's Latin. If I didn't have to take it I wouldn't. I think it's foolish to compel pupils to take it for four years. I dislike it so much that I have never even tried to get a good mark in it.

Yes, I really like Latin although it is not the easiest subject I take. During my first year I disliked it very much but after taking Caesar and learning to be able to read it without looking up every other word in the vocabulary, I enjoyed Latin more than any other subject.

I do not dislike Latin as heartily as some students do but, on the other hand, I do not like it as well as others do. Sometimes it seems rather fascinating to me and at other times it seems just terrible. In general, however, I think it is quite an interesting subject and I like it better than some of my other studies.

Yes, I do like Latin. I am taking Latin not because it is required in my course but because many English words are derived from the Latin ones and in this way Latin helps to enlarge my vocabulary. Again, I enjoy reading about the exploits of Caesar and I like Cicero's Orations. These give me an idea of the old Roman prose.

From Pupils in the Second Year

(Gray and Jenkins' *LATIN FOR TODAY*)

I like Latin, first of all because it comes to me very easily. I love to work out a Latin sentence because it appears to be so difficult at first, but when you have gotten all the cases, it works out like a puzzle and is really loads of fun. In Latin you can acquire a certain knowledge of ancient people, and their stories and beliefs are very interesting. I have increased my vocabulary and bettered my pronunciation. This language will help me a lot in my future profession and I not only take it as a necessity but because I like the language itself and the work it involves.

I do not doubt for a moment that I like Latin. I find it very interesting although it is only my second year. I wait with impatience for the time when I shall be able to read Vergil. The myths of the Romans have a strange fascination for me and I believe that this is the reason why I like the language also. I cannot tell whether I would enjoy this subject so much if I did not find it so easy to grasp as I do.

I like Latin, not in a sense of loving it, but I like to read the stories written about the ancient Romans. I am taking Caesar this year and as there are two in the family taking it there is a constant review and it really is helpful. Above all it is interesting. Last year I had stories but not as interesting as this year. I really like it!

I think Latin is grand fun. In the first place I took it as an extra subject, because I only wanted one study period a day. The sound of the Latin words fascinated me from the first. Then, translation is so much fun. It's just like a cross word puzzle. We fit the words in as they fit in a puzzle. Also Latin

has given me many new stories, which, when they are worked out, reveal Greek and Latin myths.

I like Latin very much, but not as a study. I would much prefer to study Latin in my leisure time. It is very hard for me, but strangely enough, I find it very interesting. There are many times when I know nearly all my work, but somehow I get called on for something I do not know. This usually takes the joy out of studying it. But each day I try again.

I like Latin to a certain extent. The translation is very amusing and interesting, but I do not like the drill and review. Before I took Latin I heard it was very hard, but I find it comparatively easy.

I do like Latin. It is a subject which is interesting in that it tells of mythology and the belief of the ancient Romans. Also Latin is useful to an individual because it is the foundation of our own English language. Many English words are derived from the Latin and an understanding of Latin helps one in English. To be thoroughly educated is to have a good understanding of English, and Latin helps one to get this understanding.

I'm undecided, sometimes I do and then sometimes I don't. If the work comes easy, then I begin to like it. Also, I expect to take German when in college and therefore I try to like it because I know it will help me later in the study of German. But if it wasn't because I have to have two years of it to get credit, I don't think I would be taking it.

Although I am not nearly as interested in Latin as in the modern languages, I feel that I will be better fitted, having had a foundation of this language on which to base my others, both English and foreign.

I do not like Latin because the reading matter is rather dry and it is what people call a dead language.

I would like Latin if it were explained more on the whole—if I could get the things out of it that we are supposed to get. As much as I study it when I get to class I just can't seem to get it. If I could possibly understand most of it I should like it. I do like the stories. They make one use imagination.

I am a member of the senior class of girls in the High School. I enjoy Latin very much because one derives a great deal of knowledge from this language, and it also increases one's vocabulary, but there are a great many little details that are difficult to learn.

I like Latin because it helps me in my English and Italian. Many words in Italian are pronounced like Latin. Latin is very interesting and in some cases amusing. I like to see if I can guess things and I find that I cannot know Latin unless I study. I learn more words from Latin than I do from any other language.

I like Latin because I am interested in languages other than the English language. Latin also helps me with my English sentence construction.

I like Latin because I know it will help me in my future work. I do not think it is so hard, once you learn the necessary signs which show the parts of speech.

I enjoy my Latin periods as I find it comparatively easy to grasp the grammar and because the myths of the old Romans and Greeks are very interesting to me.

I like Latin very much. Translating is a puzzle fascinating to work out. It is very interesting to fit the words together, rearranging them in order to compose a well-worded English

sentence. I like to find the English derivatives from Latin words because there are so many and they make me understand the meaning of many English words better. Then I also like the myths and stories that the Romans believed and the history of Caesar.

Yes, I do like Latin—but find it rather difficult. There are so many cases to learn that all in all I get confused and can't seem to keep Latin straight in my mind. It is rather a "dead" language—by that I mean it isn't spoken much as French is—but I have learned to like it as I know it is going to help me in my vocation.

Before I took Latin everybody told me that it was a very difficult language. I do not think so. I find it easier than French. I like Latin as far as the subject is concerned, but most certainly would enjoy it more under different circumstances.

I am asked the question, do I like Latin or do I not? My answer is I do and I don't. I like it because I know it will help me in my future life. It gives one a better knowledge of English words. Latin work is quite interesting. I cannot give any reasons for not liking it so I guess I will have to admit I like it.

Latin, a game of setting pieces together, is said to have existed thousands of years ago. If so, why in the world don't they give proof that this is true? Many beginners doubt that Latin ever existed. The reasons are: 1st., the manner in which the matter of the book is arranged, and 2nd, no history is given of their lives.

From Pupils Reading the Caesar Text

Latin is interesting, but for some people it is hard and for others it comes naturally, just as a habit. For me it is rather hard. I do not care particularly for it because when rising to recite I lose all my courage and stumble over my words.

Latin is hard but I like it. It's quite hard for me but I get along fairly well.

I like Latin because it helps me with my grammar in English and it is very interesting.

I enjoy Latin because I find it most interesting. It has helped me in my English work and I expect to use it in the vocation I have selected.

I like Latin because I find the translation very interesting. I study it, not because I am compelled to but because I like it.

Yes, I like Latin because it is interesting. And I like the way the Latin meaning appears in English. I like the translation better than the other Latin things, such as conjugation.

Yes I like Latin, but it is difficult if you don't study long enough. Sometimes when you look in the vocabulary it gives many different meanings for one word.

I think Latin is very interesting even if it is puzzling at times. I always think of a puzzle when translating.

I do like Latin. I like Caesar better than first year Latin. I probably enjoy it (Caesar) better because I enjoy translating better than analyzing.

Ever since my sophomore year at the High School, I despised the Latin language. I can readily see the reason for this selfish opposition of mine now in my senior Caesar year. My lack of interest in my early training forced me to think that the subject was dry. Since it didn't appeal to my mind, I failed to study it thoroughly. Now, a little older in age and experience I can see the value of the language. It increases one's English vocabulary and thinking powers so that he has amazing concentration powers which will come in handy in one's profession.

PROBLEM

3.¹ No one will question the statement that the "personality" of the instructor is the dominant factor in the successful teaching of boys and girls. Scholarship and knowledge of the technique of teaching may be marked "A" by the instructor in charge of a course for the training of Latin teachers and yet he will hesitate to recommend for a position a student whose personality is distinctly lacking in ability to lead, to stimulate, to inspire a keen desire for work, to sympathize with weakness and to radiate the "right kind" of friendly interest in the activities of his pupils. Realizing that the finer aspects of "personality" are often developed by experience only, should the instructor pause in the interests of "fair play" before he writes "impossible" after the word "personality" on the recommendation blank before him? But on the other hand ———?

A SUGGESTED ANSWER TO PROBLEM 2

The November issue of Latin Notes carried, under the caption "Problems," a query as to how one should grade fairly a boy who in a final examination worked very slowly but very accurately, failing to finish the examination, but answering practically perfectly every question he undertook.

Perhaps the examination was a little too long. However, if all, or nearly all the other members of the class succeeded in finishing, the pupil in question becomes a real problem.

Although this particular case occurred in a junior high school class, perhaps the handling of a similar problem in Latin prose composition classes in the college and university may be suggestive. In such classes I usually point out early in the term that in the writing of Latin both speed and accuracy are of importance; that certain phases of the Latin language should be so well known that the response on them is practically automatic; and that the student who must spend an inordinate amount of time thinking out rather elementary things really does not know his Latin as he should. On the other hand, I continue, the student who writes Latin rapidly, almost fluently, but with a fine disregard of the facts of morphology and syntax, does not deserve to be held up as a shining example, either. Accordingly, in prose quizzes I have frequently given more sentences than any student can possibly finish in the allotted time, and then in marking the papers I have given two separate grades, one on speed (i.e., on number of sentences finished) and one on accuracy (number of sentences done correctly). The average of the two gives the quiz grade. The student soon sees that he must come up to standard in both respects—and he usually does. Some such device as this, used from the

early days of the course, ought to obviate this particular difficulty on the final examination.

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BOOKS

Robert Seymour Conway's "Makers of Europe" contains several essays of interest to Latin teachers and their mature pupils—notably the one dealing with Cicero. This is a recent publication of the Harvard University Press. It sells for \$1.25.

A new edition of Martial's Epigrams has been sent to the Service Bureau by Prentice-Hall, Inc., 70 Fifth Avenue, New York. This is a convenient volume for teachers who wish to make use of certain lines for translation by third and fourth year pupils.

Professor George Meason Whicher needs no introduction to the Latin teachers of the country. He is well known for his long service to the classics and is universally liked by teachers because of his many contributions along various lines. His latest publication is a small volume, attractively bound in blue and gold, and entitled "Vergilian." It consists of poems which translate the letters supposed to have been written to Pliny the Younger by two friends in the autumn of 99 A. D., in which certain topics from the life and works of Vergil are treated. The author states that the primary purpose has been amusement and not instruction. Perhaps this will make the over-burdened teacher send at once for this volume to the American Classical League. While the retail price is \$1.35, the League is prepared to sell it for \$1.15 to those who are members. The poems are charming and all lovers of Vergil will enjoy them.

"A Latin Catechism," a paper pamphlet by Eleanor K. Peterson of the High School at New Haven, Connecticut, has reached its eighth edition. This certainly proves that Latin teachers have found it helpful in the secondary classroom. It may be secured from the author for 85 cents.

Those who have become deeply interested in Professor Rostovtzeff's "History of the Ancient World" will want to see his "Mystic Italy," published by Henry Holt and Company, 1 Park Avenue, New York City. The price is \$2.00.

The Cambridge University Press of England has a representative, Mr. F. R. Mansbridge, at the Macmillan office on Fifth Avenue. He has very kindly contributed the following books as sample copies to the Service Bureau:

1. "The World of the New Testament," by T. R. Glover. Price \$2.00. This is an attractive sketch of the Roman and Greek world about 1 A. D. and affords good material for background work.

¹The numbering follows that in the November Notes.

2. "The Works of Vergil," edited by Arthur Sidgwick. Separate volumes sell for about 80 cents.

Greek teachers will be interested in a new book by Victor Bérard entitled "Did Homer Live?" It is published by E. P. Dutton and Company, New York City.

The Medici Society of London has brought out a small attractive volume entitled "Rome," written by Gabriel Faure. It is conspicuous for the large number of pictures used to illustrate the text. Latin teachers will find it useful. It may be secured for \$3.00 from the Hale, Cushman, and Flint Company at 857 Boylston Street, Boston, or 489 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Classical teachers as well as those in the department of English will be enthusiastic over the beautiful colored pictures by W. Russell Flint which adorn the pages of two other books sent out by this company, namely Butcher and Lang's "Translation of the Odyssey of Homer" (\$7.50) and Kingsley's "The Heroes." (\$3.00.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Service Bureau for Classical Teachers has had a greeting in Latin printed upon a Christmas Card with space for the signature of the sender. This can be used by teachers or pupils. Since the cost price is 5 cents, exclusive of envelope and postage, it cannot be sold singly for less than 10 cents. However, if ordered in quantities of 20 or more, a discount of 10% will be given. Since it bears no date, it can be used again next year if desired.

Germantown Friends School is publishing the text of the Virgil Pageant which was presented in May by four hundred and fifty boys and girls on the school athletic field. The little book will give, besides the text, photographs of the performance, music for a Greek chorus and for Tennyson's Ode, and titles of other musical selections. Generous friends of the school have underwritten the publication, and copies are sold at the cost of printing, \$1.50 postpaid. A moving picture was also made of the performance, occupying two reels of 16 mm. film, fully titled. This may be rented for five dollars for three days use. Address the Secretary of Germantown Friends School, Coulter Street, Philadelphia.

A singularly beautiful one-act play, in English verse, entitled "The Dream of Andromache," has been published recently by Allen E. Woodall, of the English department of the University of Pittsburgh. The theme of the play, "Nothing is ever dead while one still lives who may remember all," is developed by

means of visions conjured up by the Cumæan Sibyl. It may be secured for 35 cents.

Is Latin connected with the life of today? An answer in concrete form to this important question will be found upon the walls of the Service Bureau. That it has a basic value for the study of English, Science, Romance Languages, Art and Architecture, Law, and Medicine as well as for the interpretation of certain aspects of modern thought is vividly portrayed. Visitors are welcome during the day and on Monday and Thursday evenings.

Copies of a Star Map, 28½ x 20 inches in size, with the various constellations identified by drawings with characters in classical mythology, brilliantly colored, and with a frieze containing the names have been secured by the Service Bureau. It is a most attractive wall poster for Greek, Latin, and English teachers. It may be secured from the Bureau for \$1.25 including postage.

SERVICE BUREAU MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION

This material appears in mimeographed or printed form. In the case of the former, the items may be borrowed with the understanding that the teacher pays the postage and returns the material within two weeks after its receipt, or they may be purchased for five cents each unless another price is stated. Printed items, however, known as LATIN NOTES SUPPLEMENTS and BULLETINS, are not sent out as loan but must be purchased at the prices indicated. The material is listed in leaflets published at the end of each school year, each one containing a summary of items which have been announced in the Latin Notes for the year. Sent out free of charge.

I. In Mimeographed Form

(Numbering is continued from the November issue).

420. An Account of a Harvest Festival. Contributed by Lunette Havens. High School, Warren, Pennsylvania.

II. Latin Notes Supplement

L. Sight passages from Latin poetry suitable for certain high school pupils. Selected by CHARLES R. AUSTIN, West Side High School, Newark, N. J.

III. Bulletins

I-XXVI are available for circulation. See Leaflets for titles.

IV. Pictures

297 paper prints dealing with the Vergilian territory and Rome and the Romans (Sets I-V). 5 cents each. See Leaflet VII for a list of titles. Discount for quantities.

V. A Wall Poster

This contains in large type THE OATH OF THE YOUNG MEN OF ATHENS. Price 50 cents including postage; 40 cents if purchased at the Bureau.